

Message Text

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20

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 OMB-01 /078 W
----- 104517

R 300700Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9769

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

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GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UR, XF

SUBJ: ARAFAT'S ARRIVAL IN MOSCOW

1. PRAVDA (APRIL 29) CARRIES A BRIEF TASS ANNOUNCEMENT OF ARAFAT'S ARRIVAL IN MOSCOW. ANNOUNCEMENT IS BURIED AT THE BOTTOM OF PRAVDA'S INTERNATIONAL PAGE. ARAFAT'S ARRIVAL WAS PRECEDED BY NO PRESS BUILDUP AND OCCURRED WITHOUT PRIOR OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT OF VISIT.

2. ARAFAT'S RECEPTION COMMITTEE ACCORDING TO THE TASS REPORT CONSISTED OF MFA GENERAL SECRETARY YU. N.

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CHERNYAKOV, CHIEF OF THE MFA NEAR EAST COUNTRIES

DEPARTMENT M.D. SYTENKO, AND A.S. DZASOKOV, RESPONSIBLE SECRETARY OF THE AFRO-ASIAN SOLIDARITY COMMITTEE. RECEPTION COMMITTEE WAS THUS AT SOMEWHAT LOWER OFFICIAL LEVEL THAN THAT SOVIETS TURNED OUT NOVEMBER 27 WHEN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER KOZYREV LED THE WELCOMING COMMITTEE.

3. COMMENT: ABSENCE OF ANY PRESS BUILDUP OR PRIOR ANNOUNCEMENT FOR ARAFAT'S VISIT AND RELATIVELY LOWER LEVEL RECEPTION ACCORDED HIS DELEGATION ON ARRIVAL SUGGEST THAT THE SOVIETS, DESPITE CAREFULLY LAID FOUNDATION FOR THEIR CURRENT TALKS, ARE NOT AT ALL CERTAIN WHAT RESULTS THEY CAN EXPECT FROM THIS CRITICAL ROUND OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE PLO. STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS RELEASES, VISITS, POLITICAL LEADERS, LIBERATION FRONTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW05989
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750151-0418
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975044/aaaaacxh.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <22 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ARAFAT'S ARRIVAL IN MOSCOW
TAGS: PFOR, UR, XF, (ARAFAT, YASIR)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006